Fatwas in Takfiring Khomeini

The One in Need of Allah

Translated from “Fatwas of Muslim Scholars Regarding the Takfīr of Khomeini, written by al-Albānī.”

Fatwas of Muslim Scholars Regarding the Takfīr of Khomeini

Written by **al-Albānī**

Whoever follows **Khomeini's** ideology, statements, and speeches will easily perceive the hidden dimensions of his inner intentions. Without a doubt, one will sense his aim to create an aura of false priestly sanctity around his person. He is convinced that what he has done reaches the level of divine missions, and that he is preparing for the coming of the Awaited Mahdī. He is also certain that he is at least the deputy of the Mahdī, possessing the same status and sanctity as the Mahdī.

We point here to a portion of his recorded speeches, which the world has heard and which have been preserved by international newspapers. As follows:

Khomeini gave a speech on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Imām al-Mahdī on 15/8/1400 AH, in which he included ideas that indicate that **Khomeini** does not believe in the completion of the Islamic message through the Noble Qur'an and the Noble Messenger, the Seal of the Prophets and Messengers, *peace and blessings be upon him*.

And I refer you, dear reader, to passages from his speech, where he said:

"All the prophets came in order to establish the foundations of justice in the world, but they did not succeed—even the Prophet Muhammad, the Seal of the Prophets, who came to reform mankind, implement justice, and nurture humanity—he did not succeed in that. The person who will succeed in this and will establish the foundations of justice throughout the world, in all aspects of human humanity and in correcting deviations, is the Awaited Mahdī... Indeed, Imām

al-Mahdī, whom Allah, the Exalted, has preserved as a treasure for humanity, will work to spread justice throughout the world, and he will succeed in what the prophets failed to achieve…"

"The reason why Allah, the Exalted, prolonged the life of the Mahdī, peace be upon him, is because there was no one among mankind capable of accomplishing such a great task—not even the prophets and the ancestors of Imām al-Mahdī, peace be upon him, succeeded in fulfilling what they were sent for…"

And he also said:

"Had Imām al-Mahdī, peace be upon him, departed to his Lord, there would be no one among mankind capable of establishing and implementing justice in the world… Imām al-Mahdī, peace be upon him, has been preserved for such a mission. That is why his birthday—may our souls be sacrificed for him—is the greatest of Muslim celebrations, and the greatest celebration for all of humanity, because he will fill the earth with justice and fairness… Therefore, we must say: The birthday of Imām al-Mahdī, peace be upon him, is the greatest celebration for all of humanity… Upon his appearance, he will rescue humanity from degradation, guide everyone to the straight path, and fill the earth with justice after it had been filled with oppression…"

"The birth of Imām al-Mahdī is a great festival for the Muslims, greater than the birthday of Prophet Muhammad. Therefore, we must prepare ourselves for the coming of Imām al-Mahdī, peace be upon him…"

"I cannot call him a leader, because he is greater and more elevated than that. I cannot call him the first man, because there is no one after him and no second to him. Thus, I cannot describe

him with any words other than the Promised Awaited Mahdī, the one whom Allah, the Exalted, has preserved as a treasure for humanity. We must prepare ourselves to see him, if we are granted success in that, and be dignified and proud… All the institutions in our country… and we hope it will expand to other countries, must prepare themselves for the appearance of Imām al-Mahdī, peace be upon him, and get ready to receive him."

Dear reader: Have you seen **Khomeini's** respect for the prophets and messengers, *peace be upon them*? Have you reflected on how he considers the birth of the Mahdī greater than the birth of the Prophet **Muḥammad**, *peace be upon him*?

The statements of **Khomeini**, which I mentioned to you earlier, provoked a wave of anger and denunciation among Muslims and their circles. They declared these to be strange statements, contradicting the core of the Islamic creed and the spirit of Islam and the noble Sunnah. These circles, through fatwas and statements they issued, said: What **Khomeini** expressed constitutes a severe violation of Islamic principles and an affront to the noble person of the Prophet **Muḥammad**, *peace be upon him*, who came as a reformer, a guide for humanity, and its savior.

These circles affirmed that what **Khomeini** said represents a departure from all that is established in the Islamic creed and unanimously agreed upon by Muslims regarding the person of the noble Prophet **Muḥammad**, *peace be upon him*, about whom the saying of Allah Most High is:

"And We have not sent you except as a mercy to the worlds."

And Muslims everywhere expressed further astonishment and bewilderment at the lack of any denial or retraction of those fanatical statements.

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What follows are telegrams and fatwas of protest and denunciation of **Khomeini's** strange statements, refuting their content, which opposes Islam and disavows its Messenger, *peace be upon him*:

First: The **Muslim World League** strongly denounced **Khomeini's** statements regarding what he called the appearance of the Awaited Mahdī to accomplish what the prophets were unable to achieve.

A statement issued by the League in this regard was published in the *Islamic World News* newspaper on 9th Ramaḍān, 1400 AH:

*"The phrases contained in the speech delivered by **Khomeini** on the 15th of Shaʿbān, which was broadcast by Radio Tehran, are in clear opposition to the Islamic creed and the principles of the noble Islamic religion. They contain an explicit contradiction to Islam, what was revealed in the Noble Qur'an, the purified Sunnah, and what the Muslim Ummah and its scholars have unanimously agreed upon."*

The League noted that no denial or retraction of these statements was issued from Tehran, despite the fact that they contain a rejection of the teachings of the Qur'an and Sunnah, and the consensus of the Ummah that our Prophet, *peace be upon him*, is the Seal of the Prophets and Messengers, and the greatest reformer of all humanity—sent with the most complete and perfect message—as Allah Most High said:

"Today I have completed your religion for you, perfected My favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion."

And he, *peace be upon him*, said:

"I have left you upon clear guidance, its night is like its day; no one deviates from it except one who is doomed."

The **Muslim World League** concluded its statement by supplicating to Allah the Exalted to protect the Muslims from the pitfalls of trials, both apparent and hidden, to inspire them with the path of guidance, and that *there is no power and no strength except with Allah, the Most High, the Most Great.*

Second: In **Tunisia**:

Shaykh al-Ḥabīb Belkhūjah, the Grand Muftī of the Republic, condemned **Khomeini's** statements, in which he showed audacity toward the status of the Prophet **Muḥammad**, *peace be upon him*, and claimed that the noble Messenger did not fulfill his mission in the most complete manner. **Shaykh Belkhūjah** stated at the Zaytūnah College: *"These statements constitute an offense to the religion and are entirely contradictory to the principles of the Noble Qur'an."*

The Muftī of Tunisia said: *"Whoever disregards the Sunnah and contradicts the Noble Qur'an is lying if he claims to belong to Islam or to be a bearer of its banner."*

Third: In **Morocco**:

The scholars of Morocco issued a religious fatwa in response to **Khomeini's** statements, which was published in issue no. 4 of the magazine *Daʿwat al-Ḥaqq*, released in Shaʿbān–Ramaḍān 1400 AH (July 1980 CE), by the Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs in the Kingdom of Morocco.

This fatwa expressed the consensus of the members of the religious councils throughout the entire Kingdom of Morocco in condemning **Khomeini**, based on the Qur'an and the Sunnah. The fatwa declared: *"The statements of **Khomeini** are vile and his false claims are atrocious. They lead to associating others with Allah, the Mighty and Majestic."*

The fatwa clarified that these statements caused a great uproar in the community, as people turned to ask about the position of the scholars regarding such despicable utterances and false claims that contradict the foundations of the Islamic creed. In response to the questions of the Muslim public in Morocco, the fatwa affirmed: *"What **Khomeini** said is an affront to the status of the angels, the prophets, and the messengers, as he placed the Awaited Mahdī in a position higher than all of them, claiming that there is no angel near to Allah nor any messenger more virtuous than him."*

The scholars of Morocco stated in their fatwa: *"Among the most dangerous claims made by **Khomeini** is his assertion that 'the caliphate of the Awaited Mahdī is a creative (takwīnī) caliphate to which all particles of the universe submit.'* The implication of this is that **Khomeini** considers the Awaited Mahdī to be a partner with the Creator, Exalted is He, in Lordship and creation.

This statement is in contradiction to the creed of monotheism (tawḥīd), and every Muslim rejects and disavows it. It is unacceptable in any of the Islamic schools of thought, and the one who utters it is not free from shirk and disbelief in Allah."

Allah Most High said:

"They did not appraise Allah with true appraisal. The whole earth will be in His grip on the

Day of Resurrection, and the heavens will be folded in His right hand. Exalted is He and high above what they associate with Him." (Az-Zumar: 67)

The scholars of Morocco, in this fatwa, called upon the rest of the scholars in the Islamic world to take a unified and firm stand against this destructive ideology, and to refute every doubt cast against the creed of Islam.

Fourth: The Statement of the Association of Scholars in Iraq:

This association reviewed the aforementioned sermon of **Khomeini**, and issued a detailed statement, in which it said:

"Since this claim constitutes a deviation from the essence of Islamic law, a renunciation of the teachings of the pure religion, and a direct contradiction to the statement of the Most High: {This day I have perfected for you your religion, and completed My favor upon you, and have approved for you Islam as your religion}, and since it is a dangerous insertion through which its claimant—due to personal aims—seeks to divert the attention of Muslims from the noble Arab Prophet, the possessor of great character, whom Allah sent as a mercy to the worlds and a savior of humanity from darkness to light…"

"And since it is the duty of religious scholars to clarify the truth and what is right, and to denounce the corrupt and suspicious ideologies and trends that attempt to undermine Islam and its essence, the Association of the Scholars' League in Iraq studied the gravity of these corrupt statements and their effect in poisoning thought, misleading public opinion in Muslim societies, and their negative repercussions on the spread of Islam in non-Muslim societies."

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*"It has unanimously decided to issue this statement as an expression of the denunciation of the religious scholars in Iraq of the claim made by **Khomeini**, and in affirmation that such misleading statements stir up tribulation and suspicion in the Islamic world. It is by no means acceptable that such speech be uttered by any Muslim. And Allah is the One whose assistance is sought."*

Fifth: The Fatwa of **Al-Albānī** on **Khomeini**:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate.

*"I have reviewed the five statements you quoted from the books of the one called **Rūḥullāh al-Khomeinī**, seeking from me a ruling on them and on the one who uttered them. So I say—and in Allah alone do I seek help: Every one of those five statements is clear disbelief (kufr bawāḥ) and explicit polytheism (shirk ṣarāḥ), for their opposition to the Noble Qur'an, the purified Sunnah, the consensus of the Ummah, and what is known necessarily in the religion. Therefore, everyone who affirms them—believing in even part of them—is a polytheist and disbeliever, even if he fasts, prays, and claims to be Muslim."*

"Allah the Exalted says in His Book, preserved from all addition and omission: {And whoever opposes the Messenger after guidance has become clear to him and follows a path other than that of the believers—We will give him what he has chosen and drive him into Hell, and what an evil destination!}"

*"On this occasion, I say: My amazement does not cease regarding those who claim to be from Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jamā'ah, who cooperate with the **Khomeinists** in calling for the establishment of their state and empowering it in the lands of the Muslims—ignorant, or*

pretending ignorance, of the disbelief, misguidance, and corruption therein. {And Allah does not like corruption}."

*"If their excuse is their ignorance of **Khomeini's** beliefs and their claim that the disagreement between us and them is merely in secondary matters (furū') and not in fundamentals (uṣūl), then what is their excuse after they have distributed their booklet "Islamic Government" and printed it multiple times and spread it across the Muslim world? In it are blasphemies, some of which were mentioned in the first question, and which are sufficient for the ignorant to learn and the heedless to awaken."*

"This is despite the fact that the booklet is a work of propaganda and politics, and it is expected that such books would avoid mentioning creeds that are overt disbelief to those they are inviting. Furthermore, the Shī'ah consider taqiyyah (dissimulation) a religious obligation, which permits them to say and write what they do not actually believe—as Allah the Exalted said regarding some of their predecessors: {They say with their tongues what is not in their hearts}."

"I even read from one of their contemporary scholars, as he listed the invalidators of prayer: 'And folding the hands in prayer—except out of taqiyyah' (i.e., placing the right hand over the left in prayer)."

"Despite all this, they have uttered the word of disbelief in their booklet, confirming the statement of the Exalted about people like them: {And Allah will expose what you conceal} and {What their hearts conceal is greater}."

"Finally, I warn all Muslims with the statement of the Lord of the Worlds:
{O you who have believed, do not take as intimates those other than yourselves, for they will not

spare you [any] ruin. They wish you would have hardship. Hatred has already appeared from their mouths, and what their hearts conceal is greater. We have certainly made clear to you the signs, if you use reason}."

Glory be to You, O Allah and by Your praise. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except You. I seek Your forgiveness and turn to You in repentance.

Written by:

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